

PLO Central Committee holds meeting

BEIRUT, April 15 (R). — The Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation began here this evening a series of important meetings under the chairmanship of Mr. Yasser Arafat. Mr. Abdul Muhaimin Abu Maizar, official spokesman of the committee, was quoted by the Palestine news agency (Wafa) as saying that the committee would consider the results of talks held in Moscow earlier this month by a PLO delegation led by Mr. Arafat. Mr. Abu Maizar said the committee would also distribute portfolios among its members and select members of the Palestine Central Council.

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Imam Sadr: Jordan will spare no effort to help south Lebanon

AMMAN, (J.T.) — The leader of Lebanon's Shi'ite Moslems urged the Arab nations to help end the fighting in southern Lebanon and said His Majesty King Hussein had to help solve the south Lebanese crisis. "The king will be intensive Arab and international contacts to deal with the Lebanese crisis," Imam Mousa Sadr added.

Imam Sadr told a press conference here the fighting — pit Palestinian commandos their Lebanese Moslem leftist allies against right Christians — was an Israeli plot to keep the Arabs involved in a chronic crisis to forestall any progress towards Middle East peace.

He said it would deprive Israel of an opportunity to settle the area or bring it under control.

Arab states could foil the by exerting pressure on parties concerned and by using the United States to renew with Israel.

Imam Sadr said that "certain Lebanese factions" were fighting in south Lebanon with Israeli forces, using Israeli arms and equipment. He added that members of his sect were siding with the Palestinian and other forces which use the Israeli forces and those collaborating with them.

Imam Sadr said the Lebanese issue was an Arab issue. If the Lebanese crisis was not solved in a positive fashion, and if negativism persists, the catastrophe will reflect on the whole Arab Nation. This, he said, is because the division of Lebanon means the establishment of another Israel in the middle of the Arab World. A conflagration in Lebanon would be like a fire that devours everything.

Therefore "we have great hopes that His Majesty King Hussein and Jordan will give their help at the Arab and international levels to bring things back to normal in Lebanon and to defuse the tense situation in the south of the country." Imam Sadr said that Jordan, under His Majesty King Hussein, is in fact a strong and permanent front against Israeli aggression. In spite of its humble possibilities, Jordan carries out its national responsibilities with faithfulness and can be described as a "military barracks" in the service of the great Arab cause. He said discussion with King Hussein had also dealt with the ever-improving Jordanian-Palestinian relations.

Imam Sadr continued: "Jordan represents the bridge for the return to Palestine. Large numbers of Palestinians are living in Jordan amicably with their Jordanian brothers," he said.



His Majesty King Hussein confers with Egyptian Vice President Hosni Mubarak at Al Hashimiyah Palace Friday. (JNA photo).

Mubarak consults King Hussein on unified Arab stand on peace

AMMAN (R). — Egyptian Vice President Hosni Mubarak Friday handed a message from President Anwar Sadat to His Majesty King Hussein on the results of his visits this month to West Germany, France and the United States.

President Sadat was the first Arab leader to meet President Jimmy Carter to discuss the Middle East situation and will be followed in Washington by King Hussein, who is expected to be there in 10 days' time.

Other Arab leaders, including President Hafiz Assad of Syria and Crown Prince Fahd bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia, are due to meet President Carter, under arrangements made by United States Secretary of State Cyrus Vance when he visited the Middle East in February.

Mr. Mubarak, who arrived here earlier on Friday from Damascus after delivering a similar message to President Assad, is on a tour of Arab countries to brief their leaders on President Sadat's three-nation visit.

The Jordan News Agency said King Hussein and Mr. Mubarak reviewed Arab efforts made to achieve a just and permanent peace in the Middle East and how best "to strengthen joint Arab action to meet the forthcoming phase."

The agency did not elaborate on the "forthcoming phase," but observers here thought the talks covered the prospects of resuming the Geneva Middle East peace conference and the need for a United Arab front there.

They also covered Palestinian representation at the conference and the need for the Arabs should take if peace talks failed to materialise or achieve any positive results, the observers said.

The agency said the King and Mr. Mubarak also discussed bilateral relations and means to strengthen them.

King Hussein stressed that Jordan will continue to coordinate efforts with the other Arab countries and seek to achieve a united Arab front, the agency added.

Explaining his thinking about meeting the Soviet leader, the president stressed that he was against working under the pressure of reaching an agreement each time.

"I would like to meet with him with or without a SALT treaty," he told reporters after the formal press conference ended.

He said his exchanges with the Soviet leader had been helpful. "But I don't feel I would tell Mr. Brezhnev you can come over here in September or October as our guest only if we reach agreement on SALT."

He added: "The meeting would be to get acquainted, to discuss a wide range of issues and the premises in our disagreements, and then we would let our subordinates work out the details."

Mr. Carter made a restrained response to an attack by the Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda yesterday on the U.S. arms proposals rejected by the Russians.

The president said the Soviet reaction had been predictable and said Soviet leaders had a perfect right to explain their position to the Russian people — just as he had been defending his own position to the American people.

He saw no reason to change SALT proposals given by Mr. Vance to Mr. Brezhnev but rejected suggestions that the talks had reached an impasse.

Mr. Carter said he was encouraged by an exchange of messages with Mr. Brezhnev and predicted some progress would be made by the time Mr. Vance and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko resumed negotiations in Geneva next month.

With no change in SALT proposals Carter wants to meet Brezhnev in Washington this year

WASHINGTON, April 15 (R). — U.S. President Carter said he wanted to meet Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev in Washington this year even if failed to reach a new agreement on curbing strategic arms.

He told a news conference had agreed some time ago to meet in the autumn and would like to carry out that plan.

He also said he would like to meet Mr. Brezhnev at least once a year.

But Mr. Carter said it had to be clearly understood that he must not come under pressure to reach agreements that would not be in the best interests of the United States.

"I am reluctant to work under the pressure of an agreement each time," he said.

The president spoke about the breakdown of negotiations between Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Mr. Brezhnev in Moscow earlier this month.

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Mr. Carter took a fairly optimistic view on the course of Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT) following the breakdown of negotiations between Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Mr. Brezhnev in Moscow earlier this month.

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Ceasefire accord in southern Lebanon to be announced soon

BEIRUT, April 15 (J.T.) — A ceasefire agreement in southern Lebanon, to be announced within the coming 24 hours, has been concluded, reliable sources said here today.

The agreement has been reached through the official and unofficial dialogue going on between Damascus and Beirut.

But the warring factions are still shelling each other's positions, and still military reinforcements are accumulating on both sides of the hot line, and in particular in the sensitive Marjayoun, Qle'a and Khyam areas.

Should the ceasefire agreement fail to materialise it is expected that within the next few days the rightist forces will launch a counter-offensive directed at villages and positions captured by the Palestinian-leftist alliance.

Sources state that the rightist forces are continuously strengthening their positions with men and arms, but that the rightwing call for mobilisation has been met with indifference by the fathers of potential recruits, who themselves are reluctant to join.

It seems that the resumption of fighting is dependent on a number of matters still to be resolved.

The right is still hoping that the Arab peace-keeping force will assume a role, which will be to its benefit. Pushing this the day before yesterday, Phalangist leader Pierre Gemayel led a delegation to Damascus to talk about Syrian-Lebanese relations, the situation in Lebanon and a number of resolutions passed by the Phalangists.

A communique was also issued by the Phalangists drawing the attention of Syrian leaders to articles in the Syrian press and Saiga publications that tried to defame the Lebanese right.

The Phalangist paper Al 'Amal concentrated in its editorial on the unity of the Lebanese front, its solidarity, backing for the president and co-operation with Syria.

Sources also say that the two explosions at Ein Al Rummaneh at the end of this week were aimed at rightwing centres. More than six people died and a number of people were injured most of whom were members of the rightist militia.

On the military situation in the south, the source said that fighting is still going on at Marjayoun, Qle'a and Khyam.

It added that Israeli artillery shelled Khyam for three consecutive hours.

In the western sector, the source goes on to say, Lebanese forces blocked the road between Naqura and Eita. Al Sha'b. Large numbers of fighters arrived in the village of Zahira.



DOWN TO THE VALLEY -- From a strategic position high up on the mountains in southern Lebanon, Palestinian-leftist alliance troops fire down on the rightist-held town of Marjayoun last week.

Zairese troops move to the offensive in Shaba

KINSHASA, April 15 (AFP). — Zairese troops moved against rebels in southern Zaire today, provoking clashes which left several dozen government troops dead and wounded, a Western military expert said here.

The offensive against the rebels, the first by Zairese troops, reportedly occurred about 80 kms. from the town of Kolwezi towards Mutshasha, an important road and rail crossroads town held by the rebels.

The expert said that the invaders had received reinforcements during this period though he did not say whether the reinforcements were in men or equipment.

Moroccan troops were not involved in the clashes, said the expert.

An official government spokesman here said that the Zairese airforce supported the offensive.

Observers here interpreted today's incidents as indicating that Zairese authorities were taking the defence of strategic, copper-rich Kolwezi had now been well enough organised and consolidated to justify military moves.

In Paris, the Congolese National Liberation Front (FLNC) claimed here today that two French soldiers had been killed near Kolwezi in Zaire.

In a communique, the front stated that "violent skirmishes" took place Friday afternoon between "FLNC fighters and Mobutu (Sese Sese) forces" and added that the "front's fighters noted, on the side of Mobutu troops, the presence of French soldiers of whom two, among others, have just been killed."

The front added that "contrary to the statements made by President Giscard d'Estaing before the entire French nation,

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Asked at his press conference whether he still believed it possible to get the Patriotic Front to the conference table despite its militant stand, he replied:

"I have made it abundantly clear that I am not prepared to talk to anyone who is not prepared to hold a conference. I am not prepared for anyone to tell me whether I am to hold a conference."

Dr. Owen said he still believed that the front would be willing to attend a conference. "I think they will come to a conference... I think they will want to discuss a future constitution."

Dr. Owen said no party held "an absolute veto power." But he added that "if any important section of the Rhodesian political spectrum" refuses to discuss a constitution, then Britain and the United States will have to very carefully consider whether we think it is worth going ahead."

The foreign secretary said he had told Mr. Robert Mugabe, one of the leaders of the patriotic alliance, in Dar Es Salaam earlier this week that Mr. Mugabe did not hold the power of veto over the conference.

The study is intended to look at various means of drafting a unified accounting system for oil companies that would in part help ensure that large firms would not misuse their powerful position in international markets, OPEC officials said.

The officials added the study was limited to various suggestions for drawing up a scheme and contained no decisions.

The 13-nation producers' organisation has been trying for several years to coordinate price differentials affecting varying grades and categories of crude oil.

The Economic Commission last met at OPEC's Vienna headquarters in February, when a decision was taken to launch study on production programming.

This is a potentially sensitive issue, with some producers worried that Saudi Arabia, OPEC's biggest exporter, may take advantage of a current two-tier price system to increase production.

SAUDI ARABIA and the United Arab Emirates are selling oil at a five per cent discount compared with other OPEC members.

Efforts were under way to reach a compromise on the pricing issue but this was unlikely to be discussed by the Economic Commission, which will meet for an expected five-day session, informed sources said.

The commission will also receive a study from OPEC experts who today wound up talks on ways of regulating the profit levels of oil companies operating in OPEC member states.

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Pakistani opposition rejects Bhutto's proposal to hold new provincial elections

LAHORE, April 15 (AFP). — The opposition Pakistan National Alliance (PNA) this evening officially turned down the prime minister's proposal to hold new provincial elections.

A resolution adopted by the PNA's General Council said the proposal was "entirely irrelevant to the objectives for which the PNA is agitating."

The PNA has demanded the resignation of Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and the holding of fresh general and provincial elections under a new election commission with the assistance of the judiciary and the armed forces.

Mr. Bhutto's proposal was officially submitted to the PNA President Mr. Nasrullah Khan this morning in Lahore by the Prime Minister's special envoy, Attorney General Mr. Yahya Bakhtiar.

Four people were killed and 57 wounded in an outbreak of shooting this afternoon in Lahore, according to provisional reports on clashes in the Punjab capital between opposition demonstrators and pro-Bhutto militants.

Fourteen of the shooting victims were in serious condition, a hospital source said. Nine others including four policemen were burned in acid attacks.

Several dozen others were less seriously wounded. Most of the dead and injured were supporters of the opposition.

The afternoon began with a peaceful march of close to 3,000 PNA supporters. Several groups attacked a movie theatre belonging to a local government deputy and a nearby building. Two separate shooting incidents broke out between demonstrators and building guards. Both buildings were burned down by the crowd of demonstrators.

The police intervened toward the end of the afternoon to re-establish order, firing in the air and tossing tear gas grenades. There were no reports of anyone killed during the police action.

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Spanish Communist Party Secretary General, Santiago Carrillo (standing) addresses the party's Central Committee in Madrid Thursday. (AP wirephoto).

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Saudi wisdom

Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd bin Aziz has stated in an interview this week that peace in the Middle East can only come on the basis of safeguarding the "legitimate rights of the Palestinian people," as he called them, instead of on the basis of solving a Palestinian "refugee problem," as the Palestinians are treated in U.N. Security Council resolution 242 of 1967. This clear position by the Saudis is significant indeed, because it places them in line with the thinking on the subject of the PLO itself. It also places the Saudis in direct conflict with the Israeli view of the Palestinians, and thus by extension, in conflict also with the American position to date.

If any Palestinian leader were to say that the Palestinians have to be accepted as a national movement with rights of statehood, the international reaction would be a perfunctory nod of agreement and a yawn. But when Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia says the same thing, heads in the West will no doubt turn with some anxiety, because Saudi Arabia commands the economic power that commands international respect. It is further significant that Prince Fahd has warned Israel that resolution 242 has been superseded by events that are recognised by the world, and that continued Israeli intransigence could maintain the stalemate that could in turn lead to another war. Most of the world does not really mind if the Arabs and the Israelis fight each other in another war, but what does worry others is that a war could lead to another Arab oil embargo. So when Prince Fahd warns the Israelis to wake up to present realities, he is also warning the West to be prepared for whatever may follow in the wake of another Middle East war that would be the result of Israeli intransigence.

The Saudi line-up with the PLO on this point will be deeply embarrassing to many people in the West who have tried extra hard to point out the wisdom and moderating influence of the Saudis in the Middle East (or the turbulent Middle East, as it is usually called when one wishes to emphasise the importance of "moderate" leaders in an action-packed region). When others line up with the PLO, the Israelis usually say it is the result of being bought off by the Arab oil billions. This line obviously will not work with the Saudis. Neither will the old Zionist scare story that only communists support the Palestinians. Saudi Arabia has spoken wisely.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

One Jordanian daily commented in its Friday editorial on Jordan's decision to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China. A second daily discussed the speech His Majesty King Hussein delivered to district governors and municipal council members Wednesday in which he called for a new form of participation between government and governors to promote Jordan from a country of services to one of production.

AL RA'I considers Jordan's decision to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China as natural. It stems from the principle of mutual interests among nations upon which Jordan bases all its foreign relations. The delayed decision, however, has not prevented Jordanian relations from developing in the economic, cultural and even the political fields.

Jordan has always been aware of China's international standing. It watched closely and with admiration the Chinese experiment, the paper added. The exchange of diplomatic relations between the two countries is but the resumption of historic ones, which should be developed for the benefit of the peoples of both countries.

No doubt China, which has previously stood by the Arab cause, shall continue to do so. It would certainly increase its support for that cause, the paper concluded, after realising the enemy's falsehoods, and uncovering its alleged claims.

AL SHAB said that His Majesty's speech has placed a heavy responsibility on the shoulders of the nation: That of transforming our society into a productive one. Such a responsibility cannot but be shouldered by those who have complete faith in their country; those who can sacrifice not only their interests but their life for the prosperity of their country, the paper said.

The transformation process requires essential and fundamental changes in our social structures and our concepts, be it on the level of the simple citizen or those in authority.

A change of the individualist concept prevailing in our society is also necessary, the paper said. Individual effort, whether it emanates from officials or citizens from the private or public sectors, should be channelled for the benefit of the public instead of private interests.

The necessary changes for production should be made available and more stability ensured. Freedom should be protected and its nationalist meaning deepened.

The transformation process also requires new social, legislative and executive structures. The nation should have the right to criticise, supervise and control the development of social activities. For the social transformation to succeed, Jordanians should place the interests of their country above those of the self and work for that goal, the paper concluded.

Katangan forces make mincemeat of demoralised Zairean army

By Gwynne Dyer

Nobody would really mind if Zaire's President Mobutu were overthrown -- least of all the Zaireans. What worries a lot of people about the invasion of Zaire by the Katangan forces is that they began early last month in the fact that it came from Angola. Is this phase II in a Russian-Cuban master plan to destroy Africa's non-Marxist regimes? Angola certainly supports the operation, and presumably the Russians and Cubans approve, though according to U.S. intelligence reports nobody expects the Katangan forces to actually cross the border. It is not an entirely unprovoked attack, however, nor are the invaders mere Marxist pawns. Indeed, the Katanga gendarmes, as they are known, are one of the oldest military forces in black Africa.

They got their start back in 1960, when Belgian mining companies based in Katanga attempted to break away from the Congo. The Katanga gendarmes were trained by Belgian officers, and for over two years they fought off the forces of the Congo National Army and the United Nations. When the Katanga secession was finally crushed, they took their weapons and fled across the border into Angola.

The Portuguese who then ruled Angola gave them a choice: Help fight the Angolan nationalist guerrillas, or be sent back. They chose to stay alive, and soon became one of Portugal's elite anti-guerrilla units. For ten years they served under Portuguese command, replenishing their losses with a steady flow of political refugees and adventurers from Katanga. Their last Portuguese commander reckoned them better than most of Portugal's own white troops.

Portugal also found the Kat-

angans useful as a deterrent against Zaire (as the Congo renamed itself). If Zaire got too enthusiastic in supporting its favourite faction of the Angolan nationalists, the Portuguese authorities would threaten to let the gendarmes fight their way home to Katanga. Since that time, the gendarmes still accounts for around 70 per cent of Zaire's exports, it was a very persuasive threat.

When the Portuguese revolution came in 1974, the Marxist MPLA to win the impending civil war between the three rival Angolan guerrilla movements. The Katangans were press-ganged once more: They would fight for the MPLA, said the last Portuguese governor, or they would get handed over to Zaire.

So the Katangans fought for the MPLA in the 1975-76 Angolan civil war. They held the east almost single-handedly while the MPLA and its Cuban friends dealt with the more urgent fronts in the north and south. And after the MPLA won and became the government, it found that it too could use the Katangans as a deterrent against Zaire. The Luanda regime has now fired that deterrent.

After the war, there was a sort of reconciliation between Zaire and Angola in February last year, but it never stuck. Soon Zaire was again acting as a channel for foreign aid to the surviving anti-government guerrilla forces in Angola, and supporting secessionist forces in the Cabinda enclave north along the coast, which produces all of Angola's oil.

Last month, President Neto of Angola apparently decided the only thing to do was to try and overthrow Mobutu. The 6,000 Katangans, some of the toughest troops in Africa, were let loose across the bor-

der to try their hand. So far they have made mincemeat of the ill-led, badly demoralised Zairean army. They have already covered two-thirds of the 220 miles to Kolwezi, the main copper-mining centre.

Will they overthrow Mobutu? They now call themselves the National Front for the Liberation of the Congo, and say that is their aim. Mobutu is certainly ripe for it: in twelve years of autocratic rule he has taken black Africa's second-biggest country, with 25 million people, and run it into the ground. It was once the richest colony in the continent; now large parts of it have lapsed back into subsistence agriculture.

Power and wealth is concentrated in the hands of Mobutu's cronies. For them food is flown in on regular flights from South Africa, and Zaire has more Mercedes-Benzes than tractors -- since independence. Ninety per cent of imports do not get beyond Kinshasa, the capital. Mobutu is widely feared, but he is not widely popular.

If Mobutu cannot fight off or buy off the Katangan gendarmes soon, he will probably be overthrown by someone who can. The gendarmes are not so much devout Marxists as they are natural survivors, so they can be bought: The price is probably a privileged position for themselves and their home province within Zaire.

Neither the West nor the Organisation of African Unity would easily allow Katangan independence, or the actual destruction of the Zaire government by the gendarmes: The United States, Belgium, France and Nigeria have already sent or promised aid to Kinshasa. But the main thing Angola wants is an end to Zaire's meddling in its domestic problems. It will very likely get its wish.

Carter's U.N. visit shows a reversal in the U.S. approach

President Carter's visit to the United Nations created a good impression. Delegates commented after his briefing that there appeared to be a reversal in Washington's approach. The non-aligned nations might wish to encourage the new thinking by asking for something slightly easier for the Western powers to approve.

NEW YORK (Geminis). -- "Not just a shift in position -- a real reversal."

That is the not uncommon delegate perception here of the new U.S. attitude towards the United Nations dating from President Carter's appearance on March 17.

At the other extreme were two low points: A short run of anti-U.S. sentiment that followed Ambassador Moynihan's glib slurs on the Third World, and, still earlier, the fall-out from Washington's sustained allergy to almost anything the non-aligned nations proposed.

On one occasion during the earlier interlude I asked a U.S. spokesman for the rationale behind a provocative and wholly gratuitous U.S. veto.

"We couldn't care less," he said, with a shrug. "Zigzagging Brzezinski, briefing the press on Mr. Carter's appearance here, was asked about the strange timing. Why just now?"

Because, he said, the president believed it important to underscore promptly Washington's faith in the organisation. Coming here symbolised that faith.

Another symbol. At what point, one wonders, could a trail of symbols begin to leave nothing more tangible than a hollow image?

The President's walk from the capital to the White House after his inauguration ("to get near to the people") was an early symbol.

Then came the withdrawal of limousines used by the White House staff and the president's casual dress for his first "fireside chat." (These two, of course, were designed to signal the removal of some of the imperialism of the presidency.) Those, however, were minor symbols and reflected mostly matters of style.

The Carter-at-the-U.N. brief was drafted to convey a larger meaning. He made a multifaceted commitment of intent on human rights, nuclear disarmament, the Middle East, southern Africa, and the plight of the poorer nations. (In fact he cemented his position on southern Africa -- to a degree at least -- by getting the Congress to repeal the Byrd Amendment, which lifted the ban on Rhodesian mineral imports, before he went to the U.N.)

It so happens that action on most of those issues could be called for within the next six months.

If President Carter, then, succeeds in convincing most delegates that his administration is more forthcoming, flexible and tolerant than its immediate predecessors, he will have scored a major gain.

For this reason: Washington has traditionally shown so little real "give" in some of these areas whenever lobbying reached the "crunch" stage that the opposition almost routinely asked for more than it hoped to

win "all member states" to a meeting in the Assembly Hall on March 17. At the same time Mr. Waldheim invited the same list to his own reception which was to follow.

Six days later the list was extended to include all observers with offices in New York (i.e. the six non-member states, the EEC (European Economic Community), the Arab League, OAU (Organisation of African Unity), PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation), and SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organisation).

The curious grew curiouser as to how Carter would manage in the receiving line when the PLO was announced.

The answer came at the regular noon briefing on the day of Carter's visit: "There will be no receiving line."

But an hour before the President spoke, I learned from an influential Arab ambassador that he had "demanded" that the receiving line be restored and had been virtually assured of compliance.

He won. There was a line. And President Carter shook hands with a real live representative of the PLO. This was protocol, not policy.

Was President Carter's heart in the right place and were his political instincts sound when he made his decision to come to the U.N. during the off-season, as it were?

Part of the answer may be in very soon. And the rest, within the next few months.

Absurdity's loophole Say "thankyou" to the Lebanese

By Bassam Bishuti

With unmitigated sadness I have to acknowledge myself gripped at the monstrous ingratitude of the human race.

For a few days ago, on April 13, the second anniversary of the beginning of the Lebanese civil war passed without a single member of the human race finding decency in him to stand up and utter a word of thanks to the Lebanese people for this tremendous achievement.

It was generally considered a farce to hear the Lebanese earnestly proclaim themselves "teachers of mankind" but now, after these two years of unswerving effort in which they generously supplied enough solutions for humanity's most baffling problems, it is beyond doubt that the Lebanese are mankind's greatest benefactors -- and I am so ashamed that none of us human beings took the trouble to tell them "thankyou" on the second anniversary of the day it all began.

Hardly any field of human knowledge has failed to be graciously rewarded with a new discovery or with a fitting answer to a question as a result of these two years of dedication and pioneering work by the Lebanese.

In religion -- one of the most exalted, and yet superstitiously obstructed, branches of human expression -- the Lebanese have supplied us with the answer to the age-old dilemma: Which religion should a man adopt to ensure a shelter from the troubles of this earthly world? In two years of vivid experimentation the Lebanese proved that one's safety depends on dedicating every minute of one's life to the supreme objective of staying in areas inhabited by people who, according to the identity card, share one's own religion.

In the complicated field of sociology many a researcher has vainly spent precious time and effort in trying to find out what makes the human creature tick, what is the necessary element without which no human existence is possible. In vigorous activity which probed to the core of every social institution and habit, the Lebanese have shown, to the satisfaction of even the most demanding sociologist, that a human being can exist without electricity, without water, without food, without money, without work and without someone shooting him.

To the exacting science of statesmanship Lebanese leaders have added an authoritative chapter entitled: "How to survive forever in the political arena." In it they show, by graphic example, that political survival depends on the meticulous analysis of trends down to their simplest components -- otherwise, you can't cope with things which you're 80. To that you must defeat your rivals by assassinating them; you must have a constant supply of

useful paraphernalia by running your own arms factory; you must build a strong power-base by surrounding yourself with a bunch of cut-throats; and you must invest in the future of your country's public life by begetting a son to inherit your parliamentary seat.

In the noble science of medicine the Lebanese have had a field day in which, single-handedly -- what a super-national -- they improved and developed up to Panama. Under their expert hands hospitals have offered remedy without electricity or water; surgeons have operated without anaesthetics or bandages; doctors have cured without medicines or antidotes; and medical supplies have been given the opportunity to manufacture to perfection thousands of glass eyes to replace those mutilated or plugged out in the course of 24 months of the unique Lebanese experiment.

The Lebanese have also paid attention, in their fearless expedition beyond the frontiers of progress, to the more economic fields of human activity. They have taught us new and quicker ways to develop the structures and resources of our national economies. Take some typical text-book problems and see how they have solved them; always more efficiently. If the old business centre of the city gets increasingly crowded under the pressure of an economic boom which requires more office-space you bomb the centre down and build a new one. If the slums of the city are a source of ugliness and disease you launch a few missiles, drive the people out and bulldoze the whole lot to the ground. If the national economy largely depends on tourism but tourists are getting bored with the same old Roman and Byzantine sites add a few explosions and you get instant Phalangist ruins, instant leftist ruins and instant brand-new National Liberal ruins.

One unexpected result of the Lebanese achievement was the discovery of a startling mass-cure for victims of psychopathology. It was reported, at one of the more dramatic moments during the great two-years' Leap Forward, that the inmates of Lebanon's mental asylum, the Asfourieh, were suddenly cured of their various psychological ailments and demanded, with irrefutable logic, to be released into the outside world -- they had been attentively watching the activities of their sapper brethren on television when they declared that if what they saw was sanity they also could pass the test of sanity.

But the most interesting Lebanese feat was to heal us all of a particularly nasty habit of superstition. Since the great Lebanese achievement began on April 13, the 13th of the month cannot anymore be an unlucky day.

Belgian parties seek coalitions to win crucial margin in election

BRUSSELS April 15 (AFP).

Belgians vote in general elections on Sunday the outcome of which will result in either a continuation of the bitter divorce between the French-speaking Walloons and the Flemings, or in an alliance between the Socialists and the Christian Social CVP.

The Socialists are particularly strong in the French-speaking part of the country. The CVP, led by outgoing premier Leo Tindemans, is the chief party in Flanders.

But no easy solution to Belgium's political puzzle is in sight.

The CVP and its allies have never been able to solve Belgium's two main problems: Unemployment (nine per cent of Belgian workers are jobless), and the language quarrel between the country's two main communities. The Flemings find it hard to imagine Social Christian Flemings working hand-in-hand with Socialists out to re-

form political and social structures. For the Socialists, it will be equally difficult to justify to their supporters of an alliance with the CVP, who are always accused of trying to "dominate" Flanders, colonise French-speaking Belgium and gag Brussels.

But a coalition between the two groups still remains a possibility. Although no public opinion polls have been taken, observers here see the CVP increasing in majority among the Flemings, while the Socialists are trying to improve their standing among the Walloons at the expense of the strictly French-speaking party, the Walloon Rally as neither political groups are likely to get a clear majority in its region, each will therefore look for supporting partners.

With several other parties such as the Liberals, Volksunie, and the Front Democratique des Francophones, also engaged in the campaign, the bargaining over the formation of a new government is likely to be long and hard. Political leaders do not expect that a new cabi-

net will be announced before June.

The political campaign has been particularly apathetic. The ecological groups that are running for the first time also more a symptom of political dissatisfaction than of environmental conviction. In the town of Charleroi, they are running under the banner of "Snow White and the seven dwarfs."

Part of the general voter apathy may be due to the holding of the elections over the Easter holiday. Voters will have to be back before the 1 p.m. closing time of the voting precincts or else face a fine for absenteeism.

King Baudouin, aloof from the political struggle, may have to step briefly into the electoral arena. The burgomasters of the Flemish town of Merville, south of Brussels, has forbidden the local Walloons from putting up their own posters in French.

A few scuffles have resulted. The king is expected to remind his subjects, gently, of Belgium's bi-lingualism.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6	8:30 Arabic series	9:20 Reportage
8:00 Quran	9:30 News in Hebrew	9:45 Variety
8:05 Children's programme	10:00 News in English	10:15 Movie of the week
8:30 English by television		
9:00 The supper show		
9:00 News in Arabic		
Channel 3		
7:30 Family programme		

RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Breakfast show	16:00 Old favourites
7:30 News	16:30 Easy listening
7:45 News reports	17:00 Science report
8:00 Sign off	17:30 Pop session
12:00 Pop session	18:00 News summary
12:00 News summary	18:05 News reports round-up
12:05 Pop session	18:30 News
14:00 News	19:00 News
14:10 Radio magazine	19:10 Music
14:30 Omar Bin Al Khatib	19:30 Sign off
15:00 Concert hour	

EMERGENCIES

Doctors:	Aydein: (72861)
Amman:	Fawzi: (28024)
Fayez Jalouja: (51012)	Lubna: (44944)
Samir Agel: (57724)	
Infirmary:	Al Quds
Abdull Razzaq Theinabat: (2079)	Zarga
Almad Fahoum: (2025)	Al Wihdeh
Zarga:	Taxis:
Ghazl Rouman: (62786)	Neal: (44433)
Pharmacies:	Tareq: (23024)
Amman:	Jerusalem: (38625)
Shaban: (38726)	Alman: (65611)

AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals:	8:00 Tref, Badana, Jauf
7:00 Cairo (EA)	8:00 Hasi, Jeddah (SD)
7:00 Dubai (Alitalia)	8:00 Agia
7:00 Muscat, Doha	8:00 Beirut
7:00 Kuwait	8:05 Beirut (MEA)
7:00 Karachi, Dubai	8:10 Cairo (EA)
7:00 Tehran	8:15 Rome (Alitalia)
7:00 Agia	10:30 Cairo
7:00 Riyadh, Dhahran (SD)	11:00 Geneva, Brussels, Amman
7:00 Damascus, Aleppo	11:00 Damascus, Aleppo
7:00 Frankfurt, Copenhagen	11:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen
7:00 London	12:00 London
7:00 Rome, Paris	12:00 Kuwait (EA)
7:00 Frankfurt	12:00 Jeddah (SD)
7:00 Larnaca	12:00 Beirut (EA)
7:00 Beirut (MEA)	12:05 Beirut (EA)
7:00 London (BA)	12:15 Bahrain, Doha (BA)
7:00 Larnaca	

DEPARTURES

6:00 Damascus, Munkh, El-sakurt (Lufthansa)
7:45 Beirut, Paris (AF)

BBC RADIO

06:00 News, Press Review	13:00 News, Commentary
06:15 News, Press Review	13:15 Business and Industry
06:30 Music from Scotland	13:30 A City and its Music
06:45 The World Today	14:00 News
06:50 News, Press Review	14:05 Saturday Special
07:00 Sol Holmes Requests	14:10 Radio Newsworld
07:05 News	14:15 Saturday Special
07:10 From the Weeklies	14:20 News, Commentary
07:15 Music from Scotland	14:25 Saturday Special
07:20 Letter from London	14:30 World News
07:25 A Musical Dictionary	14:35 Terry Wogan's LP Show
07:30 News, Reflections	14:40 Sports Round-up
07:35 Europe	14:45 News
07:40 Doris Day	14:50 Radio Newsworld
07:45 The World Today	14:55 The Top Air
07:50 Financial News	15:00 News, Commentary
07:55 Come to the Opera	15:05 Business and Industry
08:00 Scotland 7	15:10 Just a Minute
08:05 Matthew on Music	15:15 The Top Air
08:10 News	15:20 Command Performance
08:15 Europe	15:25 Books and Writers
08:20 Radio Newsworld	15:30 News
08:25 Radio Newsworld	15:35 Music Now
08:30 Brain of Britain	15:40 The Week in Wales
08:35 Sports Round-up	15:45 News, Commentary

VOICE OF AMERICA

03:00 The Breakfast Show	19:00 News and Topical Reports
06:00 after each hour	19:15 Letters from Listeners
17:00 News	19:30 New York, New York
17:15 This Week	20:00 Special English News
17:30 Press Conference USA	Words and their Stories
18:00 Special English News	Words and their Stories
18:05 Feature: Short Stories	20:15 Music USA (Gaz)
18:10 News Summary	21:00 News

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Amman (government)	Tel. 7111
Civil defence teams	26001-4
Fire headquarters	22000
First aid, fire, police	19
Jordan Electric Power Co. (generators)	26000-3
Municipal water services (sanitation)	27111-3
Police headquarters	26000
Najdah, moving patrol routes police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help	21111, 27777
Cultural Centres	
American Centre (USIS)	Tel. 4100
British Council	26004-5
French Cultural Centre	26000
Goethe Institute	41000
Soviet Cultural Centre	41000
Amman Municipal Library	26111

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هنا بيتال

Friends of Archaeology visit Syria April 30

Decapolis Bosra: Shining star of many a renowned empire

ARCHAEOLOGY friends are in for a rare treat at the end of this month in the form of a trip to the ancient Decapolis city of Bosra -- 42 kms. east of the Syrian border town of Der'a. The ever-inquisitive Friends of Archaeology decided it was high time to reach cultural hands across the Jordanian-Syrian border, so if you are interested in this exciting excursion on the holiday weekend of April 30/May 1 (Labour Day), read on and take particular note of the travel details below.

By Genevieve Maxwell
Photo by Kay Brown
(Special to the Jordan Times)

Bosra hit its cultural peak as a Greco-Roman Decapolis city, but also entertained much older civilisations in its long history: the Akkadians, Amorites, Canaanites -- the Aramaeans who gave its name "Bosra" -- Greeks and Romans. The Nabataeans held it briefly as did the lesser known Mundathites and Ghassanides. The Arabs took it in the seventh century A.D., followed by the Ayyubids and the Mamelouks -- most making this unique black basalt city their provincial capital.

But it was in 106 A.D. that Bosra was introduced into the Roman Empire. The thriving city was called "Colonia Nova Trajana" at one time, and eventually "Colonia Bosra". All Roman roads of the period led to Colonia Bosra, particularly the Via Trajana linking Damascus and Aqaba. This was personally financed by Emperor Trajan, and included the Roman sectors of this great five-stone highway which passed through Jarash, Amman and Petra.

ARAB CARAVANSEREI

Known to the Arabs as Busa or Eski Sham, Bosra has 23 mosques and seven churches in the process of excavation. Of these, the Omari Mosque is the largest and most important, originally an open Omayyad mosque converted from a pagan temple, to which the Ayyubids added columns and arches.

When the Prophet Mohammed was a young man in charge of loaded camel caravans, lying between Mecca and Damascus, the major stop-over was Bosra. Here he met learned men and discussed his religion, especially at the fourth century Deir Bahira, a striking ill-arched basilica.

He slept in the area of the open camp and bath, where

the Moslems later built the Mahraq Mosque and Madrasah. Bahira is the name of the Christian priest whom Mohammed came to know during his many trips to Bosra.

The town was also a stopping point for the annual haj which formed in Damascus -- to Mecca.

Camel trains still come to Bosra today, but the general traffic is the automobile full of tourists, as some 140,000 visitors come each year. About 1,000 spend the night in the citadel, which has a large dining room -- for 50 at a sitting. Guidebooks on Bosra in Arabic, English and French can be purchased at the citadel.

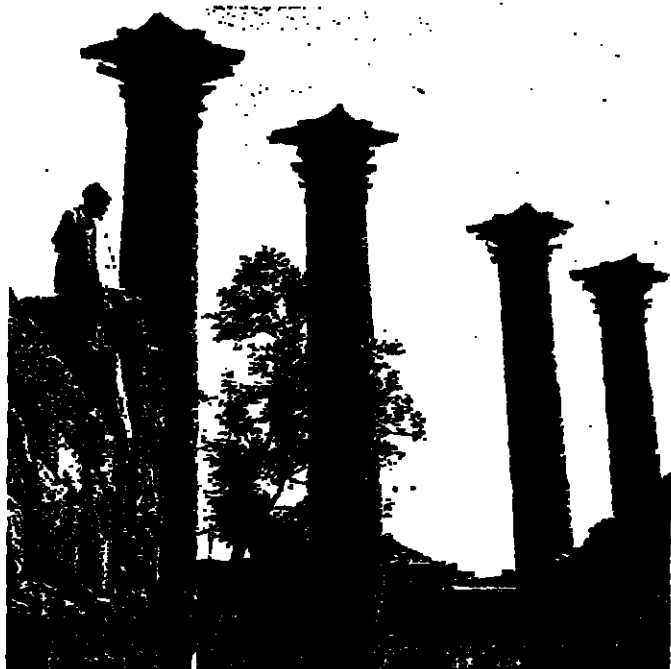
THEATRE-CITADEL

It was the Ayyubids of the Middle Ages who built the massive castle adjoining the Greco-Roman Theatre, which seats 15,000 people before its tremendous columned stage. It is used in modern times for summer festivals.

This citadel was an eastern bulwark of the Arabs against the Crusaders, as was the citadel of Ajlun. In Bosra, the theatre and citadel were cleverly enclosed as one structure for defence purposes.

In addition to overnight accommodation, the citadel has ample space today for three museums showing different aspects of the town's past: The small and precious artifacts found in Bosra -- made of alabaster, marble, ceramic and gold; the costumes and hand-made implements used in this area of the Hauran in south

Travel sheets with all details and costs of this April 30/May 1 trip are available through Mrs. Kay Mukhar, tel. 41564, or P.O. Box 181, Amman. Deadline for reservations is April 23, 1977, and the one pullman bus hired can only carry 40 persons. Participants will travel on a free visa and receive all border courtesies, although all crossing over to Syria must return to Jordan. The Friends of Archaeology is a non-profit, voluntary organisation registered in Jordan in 1962.



The Cardo Maximus runs through the centre of historical Bosra.

Syria; and an outdoor museum of the larger Greek, Roman and Nabataean sculptures found in Bosra displayed on a wide esplanade of the citadel, which forms part of its sturdy roof. Here, too, are some unusual wall paintings from nearby areas.

RARE CRYPTO-PORTIQUE

Bosra was constructed according to the Roman square-grid plan with three main gates: Bab Al Hawa or Gate of the Wind on the west mid-wall; Bab Sharqi to the east, built by the Nabataeans in typical style as seen in Petra; and at the crossing of the east-west and north-south streets, an inner-city gate, Bab Al Qandels or Gate of the Lamps with its three arches which held hanging Roman lamps to illuminate the city crossroads at night.

Among the 20 major monuments in Bosra, the most intriguing is the only crypto (underground) portico (covered ambulatory tunnel) found in the Roman East. It runs along a large section of the main colonnaded street from Bab Al Hawa to Bab Al Qandels, and was apparently a supply depot for agricultural products. It is 106 metres long, six metres wide and six metres high, and might have been a storage silo for wheat.

INTERNATIONAL EXCAVATIONS

Curator Suleiman A. Moudad, of the Syrian Ministry of Antiquities and Museums, has been in charge of excavations and restoration work at Bosra for the past 23 years. Each annual campaign brings teams of archaeologists, architects and other experts from the Middle East and Europe, with the result that, by one, the monuments of Bosra are taking shape -- and the full extent of this mighty city is being understood.

A modern settlement is now growing outside the ancient city, which, like its predecessor, draws its water from the four great second century reservoirs. The Greeks, Romans and Nabataeans built well -- and it shows.

JUMBO 747 JET ARRIVES HERE FOR ALIA

AMMAN (Agencies). -- A Boeing 747 Jumbo jet arrived at Amman airport Friday afternoon -- ending a long period of speculation about when Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, would take delivery of the first of two wide-bodied planes.

His Majesty King Hussein was present to receive the new plane, which has been named Prince Ali after the King's son.

He was briefed on arrival about the specifications of the plane, which will be flown by an all-Jordanian crew.

King Hussein then presided over a special ceremony held at the airport's Royal Lounge.

Alia Chairman Ali Ghannour, speaking at the ceremony, stated that the second Jumbo -- to be named after Princess Haya -- will arrive in May. Before this -- on April 23 -- the first will start regular service to London. It will also ply between Amman and Bangkok on a new link for Alia.

Mr. Ghannour further pointed out that the Jumbo will operate the Amman to New York route in cooperation with Syrian Arab Airlines. This will be a twice-weekly service with one flight reserved for Alia and the other for the Syrian airline.

The total cost of the two planes, spare parts and pilot training came to JD 33 million. Mr. Ghannour explained, of which JD 10 million has already been paid. The rest will be paid through loans from international banks with guarantees from the Jordanian government.

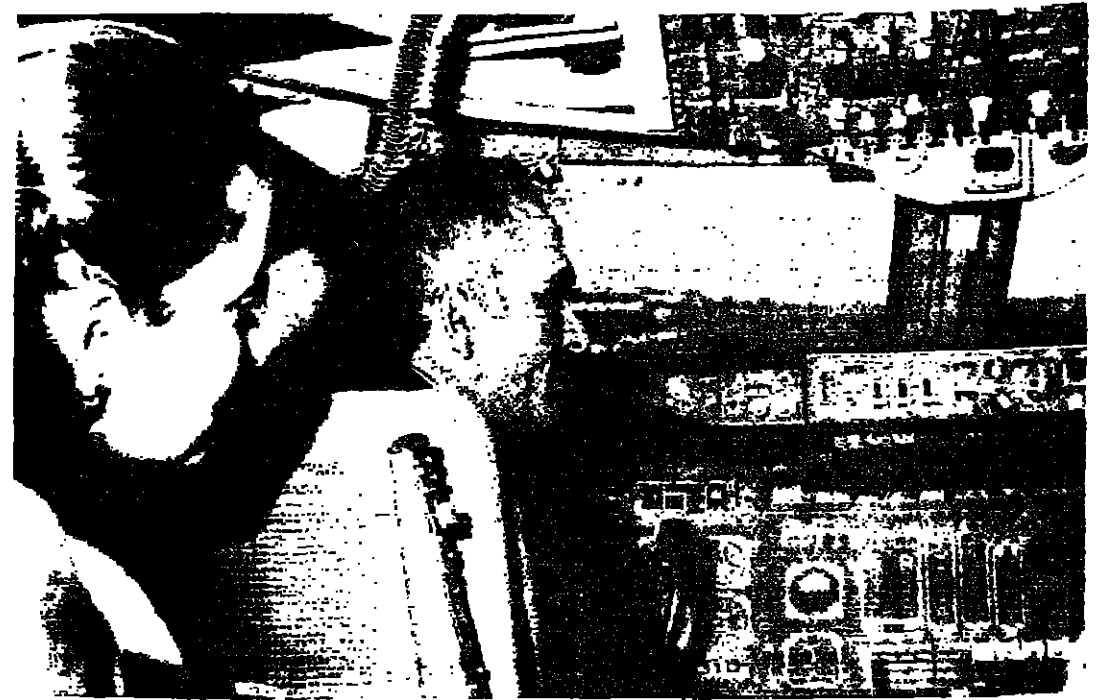
Financial problems had caused delays in the delivery of the plane. One 747 had already arrived here last December, but had to return to the United States due to a financial misunderstanding whereby Jordan was under the impression that the plane had been paid for by her Gulf financiers.

TRADE TEAM EYES INDIAN EXPERTISE

NEW DELHI, April 14 (AFP). -- A visiting Jordanian trade delegation has expressed the view that its country could profitably use Indian expertise and resources in a number of fields, particularly in setting up joint ventures.

The nine-member delegation, led by Zuhair Asfour, has been touring industrial centres in India for the past 10 days.

Mr. Asfour said at a meeting here today with representatives of Indian export houses and those of various industrialists' organisations that Jordan offers tremendous scope for building and contracting jobs. But he welcomed a line of credit from India as his country was not rich in oil, unlike several of its Arab neighbours.



His Majesty King Hussein sits at the controls of Alia's first Boeing 747 Jumbo jet shortly after its arrival at Amman airport Friday. (JNA photo).

Taiwan breaks links; trade prospects good

TAIPEI, April 15 (Agencies). -- Taiwan broke off diplomatic relations with Jordan today following Amman's recognition of Peking yesterday.

A Taiwan Foreign Ministry statement said that the suspension of diplomatic relations would date as from yesterday, when Jordan and the People's Republic of China announced simultaneously their mutual recognition and agreed to exchange envoys at ambassadorial level.

According to Mr. H. K. Shao, Deputy Director of the Board of Foreign Trade here, Taiwan's trade relations with Jordan will continue despite the diplomatic break.

Trade between the two countries last year exceeded \$17 million with Taiwan enjoying

a surplus of over \$2 million.

In addition, 94 engineers from Taiwan are presently engaged on a project to construct the 187 kms-long road linking Ghor Al Safi and Aqaba, which is not expected to finish until October.

The only country with which Taiwan now maintains diplomatic ties in the Middle East is Saudi Arabia.

Meanwhile, Al Dustour reported in Amman today that the United Arab Emirates and Oman are considering establishing diplomatic relations with Peking.

It was Al Dustour that reported that Amman and Peking were having talks through Washington prior to establishing relations.

Syrian education delegation arrives

AMMAN (JNA). -- A top-level Syrian education team arrived here via Ramtha Friday on a week-long visit to attend a Union of Arab Universities conference starting here April 16.

In a press statement following his arrival at Ramtha, delegation head and Minister of Higher Education Dr. Mohammad Ali Hasham said that the team will hold discussions with

Jordanian education officials on higher education, exchange of expertise and research and visits by education officials of the two countries.

The Syrian delegation was welcomed at Ramtha by Minister of Education Dr. Abdul Salam Al Majali, President of the University of Jordan Dr. Ishaq Al Farhan, the governor of Irbid and a large number of education officials.

Syrian military team leaves

AMMAN (JNA). -- Staff and students of the Syrian Military College left here for Damascus Friday after a two-day visit to Jordan during which they visited military positions, institutions and training centres, where they were briefed on the general activities and duties of the Jordanian Armed Forces.

The delegation was led by Brig. Abdul Qader Mohammad Saleh of the Syrian Army.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian fils for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

U.K. sterling	571.0	577.0
U.S. dollar	331.0	333.0
German mark	139.1	139.5
French franc	66.8	67.0
Swiss franc	130.9	131.3
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.4	37.5
Saudi riyal	93.5	93.5
Lebanese pound	103.9	109.5
Syrian pound	81.8	82.0
Iraqi dinar	942.0	945.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,135.0	1,152.0
Libyan dinar	810.0	820.0
Egyptian pound	465.0	472.0
UAE dirham	84.8	84.8

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Ski fliers utilise aerodynamics to achieve greater flights

If you like living dangerously why not take up ski-jumping or ski-flying? But be warned, it's not quite as easy as you might think. The following article explains the sport and the judges' making system.

OSLO, (Gemini). -- The man shot down the snow-packed slope and, reaching a point opposite me became a human missile and launched himself into space. I heard him gasp "Ow!" He must have experienced an eternity of truths before slapping down 130 metres distant -- unhurt.

Already the next man to attempt this terrifying feat was high up in a tower. Crouching over his skis, it took five seconds for him to reach the lip of the jump-platform before belting into the air at 105 kph.

Bending forward, his head now above the tips of his skis, arms pulled back to his thighs, he vanished from my sight. But I heard the crowd roar as he touched down.

Five seconds in mid-air, I calculated. It seemed like one minute. "146 metres," said the amplified voice.

I had clattered up hundreds of icy steps and now, in relative isolation, studied a panorama usually enjoyed from a plane gathering height. Snow blurred the expansive landscape; distant vehicles were slow-moving dots.

Above my head was a majestic 70 metre-tall tower. At the base of the ski-jump, surrounding the horseshow arena, was a multitude clad in the magenta and yellow tones of the latest ski fashions.

This was the scene of the World Championships in Ski Flying at Vikersund, two hours from Norway's capital. And here were 90 top ski-jumpers from 14 different nations.

Ski flying and ski jumping are related sports. Innumerable ski-jumps are to be found in the world, but only five countries (Yugoslavia, West Germany, USA, Austria and Norway) have specially constructed jumps recognised by the

International Ski Federation as suitable for "flying".

Because of their greater height and contours the jumper -- planing on prevailing winds sweeping up the slopes -- is in the air longer and utilises the science of aerodynamics.

In both sports the competitor leaves the platform with 20 points, his style being appraised by five judges who may withdraw two points if the skier "scissors", or three for a clumsy landing.

The judges forward their individual tallies but the highest and lowest are cancelled, which produces an average total. Last year the Austrian teenager Toni Innauer, jumped -- rather flew -- 176 metres at Oberstdorf in West Germany, gaining an amazing 20-20-20-20-19.

Points for style and the actual length of the leap are combined on a scale: The resultant points decide placings.

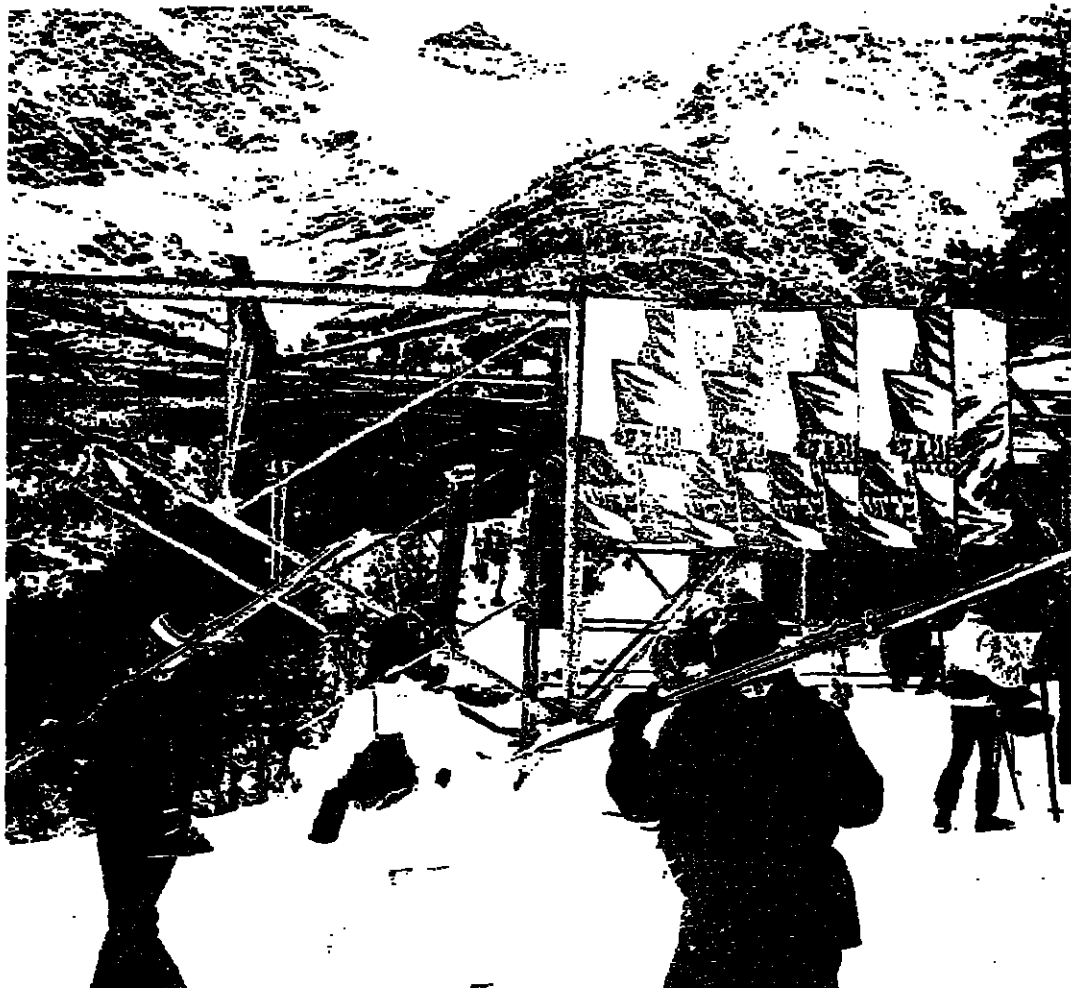
Norwegians, scanning the terrain around Vikersund in 1934 before selecting a site for their mighty jump, did so with the placid knowledge that one of their nationals made the first recorded ski-jump in 1868.

Standing upright, then springing up and down on his skis and landing with an "Indian howl" (that scared gentlemens in bustles and neurotic dogs), he was accredited with 19 metres.

Over the years various jump-styles have proved popular. The jumper standing rigid, or bending from the waist and using the arms to swim through the air.

Until the mid-1930s, the Norwegians held the hegemony in most international ski-jump events.

Back in 1892 the superb Holmenkollen jump dominated the wooded environs of Oslo,



Skiers among the steep mountains stroll to the slope.

and the atmosphere of its only day of competition, the second Sunday in March, became renowned in all winter sports circles.

Norway has an impressive array of famous jumpers. The present monarch, King Olav, participated at Holmenkollen in 1922 and 1923, and has witnessed every Holmenkollen Sunday since. Birger Ruud -- possibly the world's first "ski-flier" after clearing 92 metres at Planica in Yugoslavia in 1934 -- once lost his skis while in mid-air at Holmenkollen yet managed to survive. Bjorn Wirhola, of Lappish descent, is the only jumper to have been awarded 20 points (for style) on three separate occasions.

But the headline-makers of today are Innauer, Walter Steiner of Switzerland, this year's Holmenkollen winner Aleksei Borovitin of the USSR, and Yugoslavia's Bogdan Norcic, who has leapt longer than anyone else on skis -- 181 metres!

Who, then, are these courageous jumpers? Wandering around the Vikersund jump on a frigid day in which every sports-journalist prayed for the warmth of a

cosy bar, I regarded the competitors.

As each man landed at the base of the jump a car brought him to the halfway-point by the judges' box. Here, the trainer took over, using arms and facial expressions to enforce his reasoning. And from here the lads clutched their skis, trudged into a snowbound forest and boarded the life to the tower. To their next aerobical act.

I say "lads" because this is what they seemed. Most jumpers, whether Finns or East Germans, were slim and youthful. They were taciturn, often locked from contact with each other by a language barrier. There was no effort at playing the "robust, intensely-masculine sports-hero". The veteran jumper is Reinhold Bachler of Austria -- a brilliant performer for a decade and still only 31.

Ski-flying looks perilous, yet injuries occur seldom. Only the best jumpers are allowed to compete, while the vagaries of the wind are closely attended by officials with balloons, flags and wind-gauges.

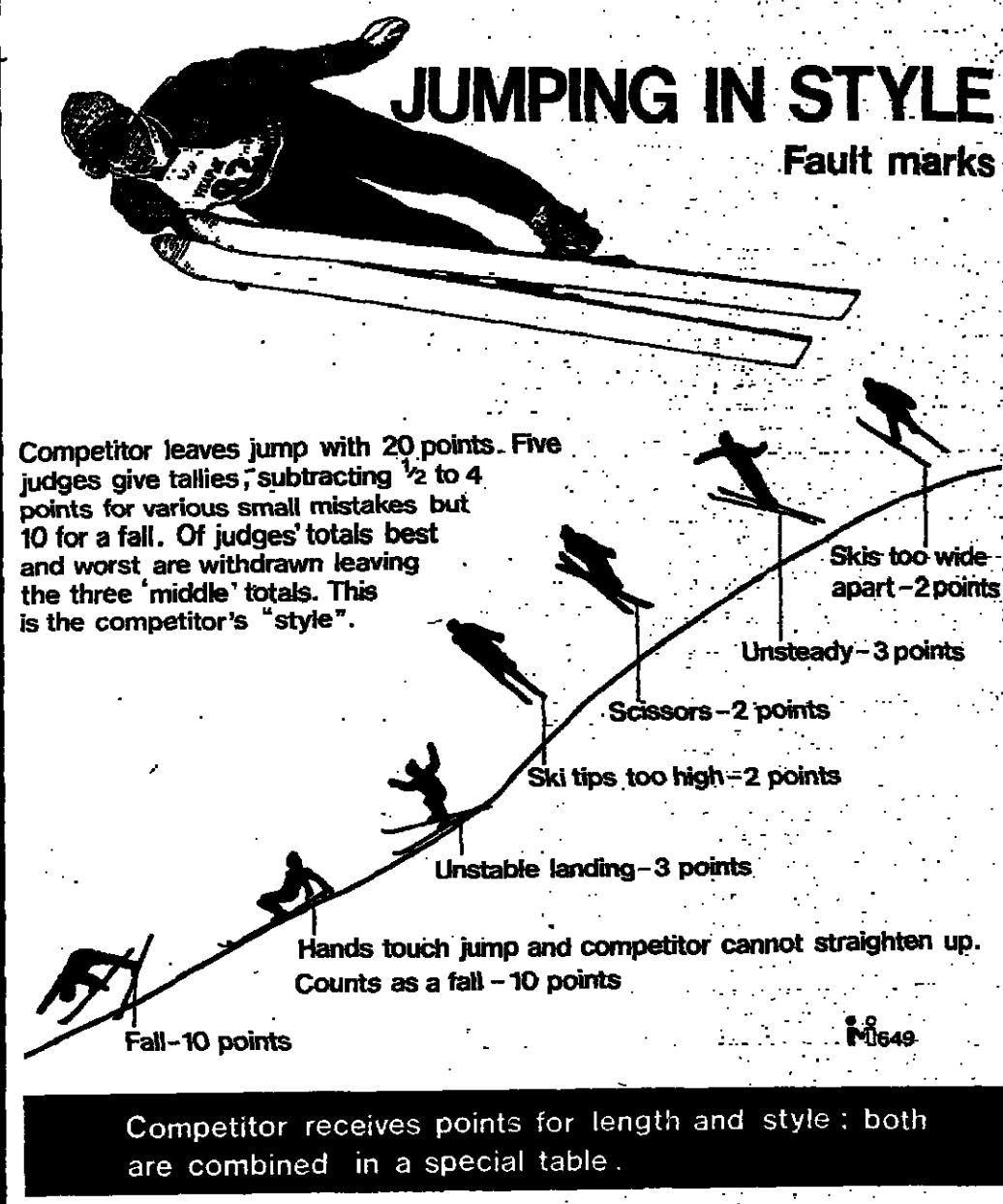
Each jump has a "critical point" -- Vikersund's is 150 metres. If this is passed a jury discusses whether, for safety's sake, the speed down the slope from the tower should be reduced. And if so, the jumpers exit from the tower from another, lower, gate.

Compared with the old-timers wearing casual ski-apparel, today's jumpers can use protective helmets and a plastic suit lined with rubber. This dress, however, must not assist his flight.

During the Vikersund World Championship Frantisek Novak, a Czech, broke the jump record with a masterly 157 metres. But the king was Steiner, winning on points.

For one who feels uneasy with skis beneath his boots, I asked the 26-year-old Swiss, who is a woodcarver by trade, what he thinks about in those few seconds as he soars above the free-tops.

"I just think," he said, "that I enjoy doing this."



Europe needs a basic change in attitude towards the developing nations

Sixty-one countries are about to attend a joint ministerial meeting in Fiji between the nine European Community members and the 49 developing countries (ACP) which are now party to the Lome Convention. It will be an important occasion, since many developing countries are not happy that the convention is working out as well as it promised. A recent report was highly critical of Europe's attitudes and actions in relation to the developing world.

LONDON, (Gemini) -- The future of Europe, more than that of other industrial states, is bound up with the nations of the developing world. In many ways their development is inseparable from our own. The European Community therefore has special reasons and responsibility to give the world a lead in promoting the reforms needed for orderly world cooperation.

These are the conclusions of Europe and the world without, a report addressed to the European Commission and the nine member governments of the European Economic Community (EEC).

Robin Sharp, Head of Oxfam's Public Affairs Unit,

and Claire Whitmore, seized on Britain's first occupancy of the presidency of the council of ministers to produce a report highly critical of many of Europe's attitudes and actions in relation to the rest of the world. Their recommendations demand drastic modifications to the European machine.

Where is the malaise? The report points to "the most politically explosive and morally challenging issue of world affairs: The deepening gap between rich countries and poor," the seeds of which were sown by earlier European generations in the Industrial Revolution.

The European Community, in collaboration with other industrialised countries, should therefore provide the leadership and political vision necessary to devise measures for reshaping the world's economy in such a way that developing countries will enjoy full participation on fair terms.

This demands a common European strategy in foreign affairs and economics. The report adds: "The castration complex of some governments, fearful of a loss of national sovereignty, cannot be allowed to obscure the obvious cause for having both functions provided within the commission."

The report links change in foreign affairs with social reform within Europe. A long-term view is essential. One senior commission official puts the problem in this way: "As long as the member governments see the community in a one to two-year time frame, we'll never get any forward planning and without that, the whole thing will fold up."

There will have to be a dramatic increase in direct resources transfers. Among the report's aims for the eighties is a community shift towards a development policy in aid and trade which is reflected in a renegotiated Lome agreement. At the same time, the report acknowledges that extending Lome to a much wider membership on anything like the present scale would be economically and politically out of the question for the time being.

The Lome II planners consider the needs of the developing countries for economic diversification, which is becoming increasingly important to those countries trying to implement a "basic needs" strategy and to become self-reliant in their domestic food supplies.

Without the collaboration of other industrialised countries, there is limited scope for extension of the present STABEX commodity stabilisation scheme by the community alone. The EEC cannot be expected to offer guarantees on products whose price is determined by market forces beyond their control.

To provide such a scheme for Asia's rubber exports, for example, would render Europe liable to pay for a fall in demand provoked by the U.S. or Japan which takes the larger share of the trade. The report sees the answer in a multilateral STABEX system for many commodities.

A high-powered committee called Europe Plus Thirty recently set out the case for a European futures research institute. It commented: "Many of the community countries are now, even in the higher reaches of politics and administration, extremely poorly informed about the rest of the world."

This lack is evident within national governments and in Brussels where lack of co-ordination between the various directorates impedes clear decisions even in cases of obvious overlaps of interests, such as those between imports from developing countries and incentives granted to competing interests within the EEC.

On food needs, the report points to a theoretical solution: One approach is to look at the globe as a single giant farm in the higher reaches of land use so that allocation of land need not be devoted to the growing of crops or animals for which it is best suited.

"With some allowance for energy or transport costs between the point of origin and consumption, this would theoretically produce an optimal pattern of world food output."

Only theoretically, because no country would be prepared to sacrifice much of its internal security of supplies to the vagaries of world trade and politics. The report insists, however, that it is in this direction that some progress must be sought.

The authors then turn to the convenient, but never yet completely proved theory that animals fed on grain in the rich world are effectively competing with people in the developing countries who need the grain to survive.

Many people also wonder whether one life would be saved in the Third World if the EEC were to cut the output of beef and dairy produce so as to lower the pressure on the world grain market.

What is surely needed is more "inputs of all kinds to increase Third World grain production, encouragement for more local consumption of cereals and a further and more energetic campaign against pests in both field and storage."

It would be in the interests of both developed and developing countries -- and sound sense -- to limit livestock production to that which could be mainly sustained on grass.

The report suggests that by progressively reducing its own production of grain for cattle, the community could increase its importation of beef from countries raising their cattle mainly on pasture or range land.

This would benefit Australia and New Zealand but it would also greatly help countries like

Botswana and Kenya. W. the report does not say is it would also be nutritious cattle breeding countries provide more meat for consumption by their own people.

There is considerable criticism of the way in which aid is applied, with policy often directed at removing EEC surpluses rather than meeting the real needs of developing countries.

One way to cope with surpluses, suggests the report, might be to "take a leaf from the Chinese commune which confronted with an unexpected milk surplus converted it into ice cream and distributed free to the people."

On industrial policy, the report points out that, as Netherlands government noted, the community has "yet developed any policy signed to restructure industrial undertakings or sectors which in the long term have to be considered uneconomic in the light of the needs of the developing countries."

How far developing countries benefit from sound investment in the Third World greatly depend on the success of the new Centre for Industrial Development, a product of Lome, in winning the cooperation and support of private industry as well as that of the member governments through the joint EEC/ACP Committee on Industrial operation set up to underpin joint efforts in research, development, information exchange and the setting up of contacts through companies.

Perhaps the most controversial part of the report is the tall piece which advocates "consideration of a low-growth model for Europe, which will permit wider access to help the developing world while avoiding high levels of unemployment and lowering a major expansion social programmes."

The authors admit that most well brought up economists, it will probably so like the jackpot prize or utopian fruit machine, they conclude: "Perhaps shall not know until we try."

The countries to participate in the Fiji meeting are:

From the EEC: Belgium, Denmark, France, West Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

From the ACP: Bahamas, Barbados, Benin, Botswana, Brunei, Cameroon, Central African Rep., Cote d'Ivoire, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Tanzania, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Upper Volta, West Samoa, Zaire, and Zambia.

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هكذا صنع القطن

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1977 by Chicago Tribune

h vulnerable. South

NORTH
♠ 10 6 4 3
♥ K 6 5 2
♦ K 8 4
♣ A K

EAST
♠ J
♥ A 8 7 3
♦ Q 10 9
♣ 7 6 5 3 2

SOUTH
♠ A K Q 5
♥ J
♦ Q 10
♣ Q J 10 8 7 4

bidding:
West North East
Pass 1 ♥ Pass
Pass 4 ♠ Pass
Pass
Opening lead: Queen of ♣.

Many hands hinge on con-
of the trump suit. When
hand cropped up in the
Team event at the re-
fall North American
championships, one declarer
ized the importance of
ing onto his trumps, the
did not.

At both tables the final
tract was four spades,
ched on the above se-
ence with both partners
ding naturally. Had
ups not broken 4-1, both
larers would have coast-
home in comfort.
At the table where we
ched, West won the first
k with the queen of
arts and continued with
jack. Declarer again
ved low from dummy and

ruffed in his hand. He cash-
ed the ace-king of spades,
and was disappointed when
East discarded. Now he
went after clubs, but it was

too late. After cashing the
ace-king of the suit, declarer
tried to get back to his hand
with the queen of diamonds.
West won the ace and re-

turned a trump, and declarer
had no way of coming to ten
tricks—in fact, he made only
eight.

At the other table, South
was more cautious. When he
saw East's jack of spades
drop on the first trump lead,
he realized there was a likeli-

hood of a poor trump
division. Therefore, he
abandoned trumps for the
moment and immediately
went after clubs. After cash-

ing dummy's two honors, de-
clarer got back to his hand
with a trump. When East
showed out, declarer's fore-

sight was rewarded.

Declarer simply ran the
clubs. West could ruff at any
point he wanted to, but de-
clarer would overruff in
dummy, draw the last trump,
and continue to run his clubs.
One way or another, declarer
would score ten tricks in the
black suits for his contract.

THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



**CONSEQUENCES OF EARTH-
QUAKES --** The earth tremor
(Point 9, Richter scale) con-
tinued for one minute, but
this proved enough to reduce
to ruins the large industrial
community of Gazli in the
south of Central Asia.

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 1977

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RICHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day for making new and
interesting plans for the future that have long-range
implications. It is also a time to put your romantic side of
life on a more fascinating basis.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Study what your true
objectives are and then take definite steps in the right
directions toward achieving them.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Analyze all information
you have in order to put that plan to work successfully.
Take time to improve your surroundings.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Try to be more honest
with your good friends and gain their goodwill. Attend the
social and make the evening a happy one.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Visit
congenials who can be of assistance to you and help you to
get ahead faster. Avoid a troublemaker.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) You can start a new venture
today or give new impetus to one already in motion and
get excellent results. Express happiness.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Find a new system
through which you can handle your responsibilities more
efficiently. Improve your appearance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) If you cooperate more with
your associates, you find that more success is possible in
the future. Take better care of your health.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Become more enthused
about the work you have to do and you will be more
efficient at it. Express personal happiness.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Engage in
favorite hobby with congenials. Give encouragement to
mate and have more harmony.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Make needed
changes to your surroundings. Do some entertaining at
home and bring more happiness into it.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Improve on your daily
activities so they run more smoothly in the future. Come
to a better understanding with mate.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Pay more attention to
finances if you want to live a fuller and more satisfying
life in the future. Be clever with friends.

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Scramble these four Jumbles,
one letter to each square, to form
ordinary words.

NAMEG

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Now arrange the circled letters to
form the surprise answer, as sug-
gested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Jumbles: MUSTY FINAL LIMBER BEATEN

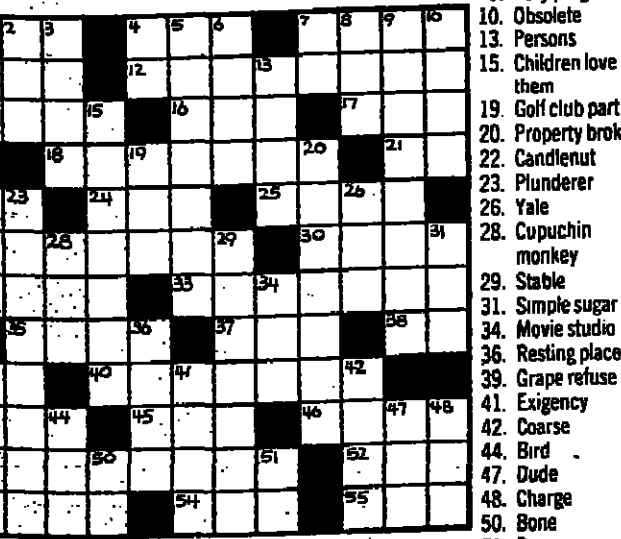
Answer: What it was, under the citrus tree—
"SUB-LIME"

ROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1. Residential
2. Nickname
3. Greek letter
4. Yessed
5. Polynesian
6. Award
7. Avantine ketch
8. Owl
9. Walk on the moon
10. Surveyor
11. Before the day
12. News Service
13. Pseudonym
14. Understood
15. Offense

DOWN
1. Lettuce
2. According to
3. Non-pro-
fessional

4. Goes with 39
5. Across
6. Frigate
7. Chlorine in
chemistry
8. New Guinea port
9. Obsolete
10. Persons
11. Children love
them
12. Golf club part
13. Property broker
14. Candelnut
15. Plunderer
16. Yale
17. Cupuchin
monkey
18. Stable
19. Simple sugar
20. Movie studio
21. Resting place
22. Grape refuse
23. Exigency
24. Coarse
25. Bird
26. Dude
27. Charge
28. Bone
29. Pronoun



Time 25 min. 1P Newsfeatures 4-15 51. Pronoun

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THE JORDAN TIMES...

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TO MAKE
THE DAY
LONGER?
DIET

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PUBLIC EYE

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wife. However, starting to have doubts about her
movements he hires a private investigator to trail
her.

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PEANUTS

OTHER GOLFERS
ARE LUCKY...

THEY HAVE CADDIES
WHO TAKE THE FLAG
OUT OF THE HOLE...

MY CADDY FALLS
IN THE HOLE!

4-7

THE FLINTSTONES

HMM-M-M...
WONDER
WHAT MOMMY'S
COOKING TODAY?...

...THAT'S
IT! A
SMOKED
HAM!
AND IT
MUST BE
GOOD!

SHE'S
OVERJOYED
TO THE POINT
OF TEARS!

4-14

MUTT AND JEFF

OH, JEFF YOU'RE SO CUTE
I KNOW DADDY WILL BE
PLEASED TO MEET YOU!

LEAD ME TO
HIM, DO!

DADDY THIS IS JEFF!
WE'RE STUDYING HIM
AT SCHOOL!

YOU, MR. BARTER!
TO MEET
THE REFRIGERATOR?

SEE YOU
TOMORROW
NIGHT, VI!

4-14

Carter's anti-inflation plan relies on voluntary controls

WASHINGTON, April 15 (R). — U.S. President Carter unveiled an anti-inflation program today relying chiefly on voluntary cooperation between business, labour and government.

He said he believed cooperation could aim reasonably at reducing the current rate of inflation of about 6 per cent by two percentage points by the end of 1979.

In his statement the president rejected compulsory measures to control inflation, such as a request to Congress for actual or standby authority to impose wage and price controls.

Among the main provisions of his programme were creation of a mechanism for cooperation between business, labour

and government, and efforts by the White House Council on Wage and Price Stability to spot and warn about inflationary threats.

Other elements included encouragement of increased productivity in business and agriculture, moderating sharp fluctuations in the supply of commodities, a cutdown on price

fixing and monopolistic practices, and more competition in industries regulated by the government.

He said another important part of his programme was the encouragement of international trade and imports to the United States while taking into account the legitimate needs of specific American industries and workers.

If left gains power in France, how far will ties with Arabs change?

PARIS, April 15 (AFP). — The tone of French relations with the Arab World will change fundamentally if the left wins power here, according to

a leader of a leftwing grouping in the Socialist Party.

Mr. Jean-Pierre Chevènement told an Arab revue, Al Waran Al Arabi, that the Arab World was not properly known here and this was regrettable. The Arab World should not be treated merely as a market-place, he said.

He thought his party had "particular reasons to maintain good relations with progressive forces, those which are at work to transform the Arab World."

"So, we have close links with the Algerians... and equally good contacts with the Iraqis," he said.

Mr. Chevènement said the Israeli-Arab conflict weighed heavily on relations between Europe and the Arabs and recalled that the Socialist Party believed Palestinians had the "right to a homeland, to a state."

"That implies recognising the right of the Israeli state to exist," he added.

One-in-five Lebanese fled the civil war

BEIRUT, April 15 (AFP). — More than one-fifth of Lebanon's population fled the country during the civil war, it was learned here yesterday. The Lebanese League in the World, an association of Lebanese emigrants, said that between April 20, 1975, and March 20, 1977, a total of 625,760 Lebanese left their country for overseas. Of these, 353,280 had now returned. Total population was set at 3,100,000. Most of the fleeing population, 193,588 Lebanese, found temporary refuge in Syria. The Gulf came second with 97,890, followed by Africa 86,150, France 48,977, Britain 34,934, South America 31,430 and Australia 26,544. Emigration of 17,860 people to the United States -- too distant to make it the prime target -- was nonetheless considered by the report to have hit Lebanon hardest. Professional people, especially doctors, engineers and technicians, were among those who went to America and only 3,345 returned after the war.

Gamassi: Israel may go to war

CAIRO, April 15 (R). — Egypt's War Minister, Gen. Mohamed Abdul Ghami Gamassi, has said it is more than likely that Israel will mount a "military adventure" as a way out of its problems at home and abroad.

Addressing a military passing-out parade yesterday, Gen. Gamassi said: "The battle for (Middle East) peace has placed Israel in a corner and it is trying to find an outlet."

"Peace efforts have also led to internal political conflict in Israel. We are taking into consideration that under such circumstances a military adventure (by Israel) is more than likely."

In his speech, published in newspapers here today, Gen. Gamassi said Egypt was also keeping an eye on its western border with Libya.

Relations between Egypt and Libya have long been poor. Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi protested to the Arab League and the Organisation of African Unity last week over the alleged arrest of members of Libya's diplomatic mission in Alexandria.

According to Egyptian police sources, no Libyan diplomats have been arrested.

Gen. Gamassi said: "We cannot overlook plots being hatched in the west or the south where Sudan is being threatened."

Egypt and Sudan are partners in a joint defence pact and President Anwar Sadat said recently that Egypt would fight at Sudan's side if it was subject to any aggression.

Ethiopia receives Soviet arms as Eritrean guerrillas claim Asmara is within their reach

ADDIS ABABA, April 15 (R).

— Ethiopia, involved in a growing dispute with Sudan as well as trying to put down a series of local insurgencies, has taken delivery of 31 Soviet-built tanks and 40 armoured personnel

carriers, informed sources said today.

The sources said the weapons, which included six anti-aircraft guns, were shipped across the Red Sea from Aden earlier this month and transported to a base south of here. The tanks are of an old model, the T-34.

Other sources said Ethiopia was also expecting some Russian-built transport helicopters.

In Cairo the semi-official newspaper Al-Ahram said the tanks were paid for by Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi as part of a deal in which the Soviet Union would acquire naval facilities in Ethiopia's Red Sea Port of Massawa, but this could not be confirmed here.

Ethiopia this week accused Sudan of aggression and violation of its territory and head of state Mengistu Haile-Mariam warned his people to be ready for an "emergency call of the motherland" in the near future.

As well as the dispute with Sudan, the Ethiopian government is facing challenges from secessionists in Eritrea, right-wing forces of the Ethiopian Democratic Union (EDU) in the northwest insurgents in

Bhutto summons cabinet to discuss way out of post-election turmoil

LAHORE, April 15 (Agencies)

— Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto summoned a cabinet meeting here today to look for a way out of Pakistan's post-election turmoil which has taken about 160 lives and cost the country towards a civil war more than \$200 million.

No official confirmation was available on the meeting. Informed sources said the main topic was the demonstrations and violence against the government, launched by the opposition Pakistan National Alliance (PNA).

The PNA is pressing demands for Mr. Bhutto to step down and hold fresh elections. It claims the March 7 elections were rigged.

An opposition strike paralyzed Lahore, capital of Punjab Province today and nearly all

shops and markets closed in the city of two million.

Yesterday, the prime minister counselled members of his Pakistan People's Party (PPP) to show restraint "for a few more days" to avoid heading the country towards a civil war.

This encouraged speculation that Mr. Bhutto was anticipating a breakthrough in his efforts for talks on the disputed elections with the defiant PNA, which has also called a meeting today of its policy-making General Council.

But the PNA insisted today it had not received any specific proposals from the government to end the impasse, and reiterated that it stood by its original demand that Mr. Bhutto step aside and that fresh elections be held under army and judicial supervision.

Moslem League President Pir Pagaro, one of the leaders of the nine-party PNA, went a step further and said Mr. Bhutto must resign before talks could begin.

Several of Pakistan's leading newspapers, mirroring public concern, have made fervent pleas to the opposition to enter into a dialogue for a peaceful solution.

The pro-government Pakistan Times said in an editorial today that the country was drifting towards disaster and that a situation was developing similar to the one in 1971 which led to a war with India and secession of East Pakistan (Bangladesh).

In a separate development, according to a government press statement today Mr. Bhutto accused foreign news media of giving inaccurate reports about the present political situation in Pakistan.

The statement said that Mr. Bhutto told workers of the Pakistan People's Party in Lahore yesterday not to be misled by incorrect and misleading facts and figures issued by foreign news organisations.

Meanwhile, at least two persons were killed in Lahore today and many others wounded in clashes between supporters of the government and political opponents.

Police intervened in strength late this afternoon to try to control the rioting, which erupted at the end of an opposition demonstration.

Hospitals said two persons were killed and "dozens" of others were wounded.

Egypt may allow Jews to return home

CAIRO, April 15 (AFP).

— Egypt is studying the possibility of allowing Egyptian Jews who emigrated to Israel to return here, according to press reports yesterday.

About 500 people are all that remains of a once sizeable Jewish community in Egypt.

Sudanese, Iraqi and Moroccan authorities have already said they would accept former Jewish citizens of these countries who wanted to leave Israel.

A report to the recent session here of the Palestinian National Council said 4,000 Moroccan Jews had already returned.

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat was quoted as saying he approved the return of Jews from Israel to Arab countries, since "these countries are their homelands in the same way as the land of Palestine is ours."

Abu Iyad, another senior PLO official, told the council that such a "counter-emigration" could be an important weapon for the Arabs and could have the same effect as the "armed struggle."

"Because it comes to the same thing whether 4,000 Israelis are killed or 4,000 Jews are allowed to emigrate from Israel," he said.

ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

Carter will not rebate taxpayers after all

WASHINGTON, April 15 (Agencies) — U.S. President Carter last night dropped a controversial proposal to give each taxpayer and his dependents a \$50 tax rebate this year, saying the economy was improving and inflationary pressures were increasing.

In a sudden policy switch after pleading for Congressional approval of the rebate, he also announced he had withdrawn a recommendation that business should be given a \$2 billion investment tax credit.

The president told reporters the rebate, which would have totalled about \$11 billion and was strongly opposed by influential congressmen, was not needed now.

Consumer confidence and spending had risen, unemployment was down and inflation was now a prime issue, he said.

The presidential decision was well received in Congress and on Wall Street, where stock market averages moved up briskly in active trading yesterday.

Specifically, Mr. Carter gave up a plan to hand every American taxpayer a \$50 refund on his 1976 income tax, as well as a tax deduction proposal for business intended as an incentive to investment.

Mr. Carter said that he believed his decision more on economic than political grounds.

Be that as it may, the president's tax refund proposal faced possible rejection next week in the Senate, not only because of fears about inflation but some senators are resentful over Mr. Carter's announced plan to cut back "pork barrel" projects, federally-financed schemes for irrigation and the like which politicians traditionally obtain for their constituencies.

President Carter said he had not abandoned the economic stimulation programme he announced in January. The plan still calls for spending on the order of \$20,000 million over a two-year period, mainly

with a view to creating jobs in the United States.

Mr. Carter said his tax decision would help reduce the federal deficit for fiscal 1977. He asked Congress not to take advantage of these savings to vote non-essential spending alternatives.

The president is to announce his anti-inflation programme late today. It is not expected to contain any spectacular points. He is also due to publish his energy programme next Wednesday. He said yesterday it would include some tough provisions but that he expected Americans would understand they were necessary.

USSR, Afghanistan sign 12-year economic accord

MOSCOW, April 15 (R). — The Soviet Union has pledged increased economic aid to Afghanistan following a three-day official visit here by President Sardar Mohammad Daoud.

Official Soviet press reports said the aid would help Afghanistan develop its agriculture and oil, gas and chemical industries.

The reports followed the usual practice here of referring to "economic cooperation" between the two countries rather than Soviet aid.

The 12-year accord listed areas of the economy which would be expanded and deve-

loped. They included irrigation, public health, prospecting for natural resources, training of specialists and construction of energy plants.

The agreement was signed yesterday by Soviet economic aid chief Sergeyev Stepanov and Afghan Planning Minister Ali Ahmed Khanum who accompanied the Afghan leader.

President Daoud left Moscow by air for home earlier today.

He was seen off by Soviet President Nikolai Podgorniy and Premier Alexei Kosygin, who both took part in talks with the Afghan leader during his stay.

Egypt, West Germany discuss Mediterranean-desert canal

FRANKFURT, West Germany, April 15 (R). — Egyptian Power and Energy Minister Ahmad Sultan arrived here yesterday for talks on building a canal linking the Mediterranean with the Qattara Depression in Egypt's Western Desert, the Egyptian consulate-general in Frankfurt said.

Mr. Sultan is heading the Egyptian side of a joint Egyptian-West German steering committee supervising a feasibility study of the project by an international consortium.

The two countries signed an agreement in Cairo in September, 1975, to launch the study for what could become the world's biggest hydroelectric scheme.

The Qattara Depression is a vast 18,100-sq. kms. area in the Western Desert 135 metres below sea level.

Under the original plan,

water rushing through the canal into the northern tip of the depression would be used to eventually produce 20,000 megawatts of electricity.

A spokesman for West Germany's Ministry of Overseas Development Aid said yesterday the use of nuclear devices to blast out the 80-kms. long canal-bed was one of several alternatives under consideration.

An Egyptian Consulate spokesman said West Germany has so far pledged 11.2 million marks (\$2.75 million) towards the study, which is in its final stages.

He said the steering committee would discuss all aspects of the project, including its implementation.

Mr. Sultan will also have talks in Bonn on Monday with Overseas Development Aid Minister Marie Schleit, the spokesman said.

15 million copies of the latest volume of Mao's Selected Works go on sale in China

By Rene Flipo

PEKING, April 15 (AFP). — Residents of Peking formed queues hundreds of metres long today to buy the Fifth Volume of the late Mao Tse-tung's Selected Works devoted to the press.

The People's Daily described an entire issue to the publication of this new volume, which contains writings and speeches Chairman Mao during the period 1949-1957 of which only the Chinese-language edition exists at the present.

A total of 15 million copies were to be put on sale all over China today, according to the official press. Publication is continuing and, in all, 200 million copies will be printed.

In the big Hsinhua Shudian bookshop in the centre of Peking, thousands of copies in pink covers were piled up on the ground floor as high as a man stands around a giant bust of Chairman Mao which was partly hidden by them.

Orderly queues of buyers snaked through the shopping lanes in the city centre and continued for several hundred metres along the pavements of the Avenue of Eternal Peace which crosses Peking from west to east.

Each buyer was allowed to purchase only one copy at a time, at the cost of about 15 U.S. cents. Many returned to the end of the queue two, three or four times to buy copies for their friends and relatives.

Delivery vans, covered with colourful flags and slogans, supplied the various sales points throughout the day as groups of young people played drums and set off fireworks to celebrate the event.

Volume Five of the Selected Works contains 70 articles, 46 of them never before published. Unlike the preceding volumes, the texts in this one range from several pages long to a mere one or two lines

taken from documents whose existence was not previously known.

By reading the summary of this work, it is possible to see more clearly the major preoccupations and aims of the Chinese regime in 1977. Almost the entire book is devoted to the internal situation, with very strong emphasis on economic questions, notably agriculture which remains today the basic sector.

An interesting fact about the selection is that it contains none of the many texts of the period about Sino-Soviet relations which were at the time excellent. They did not deteriorate until 1959.

The Fifth Volume also omits a text that is known to exist but which has never been published: Mao's speech in May 1956 on the opening of the brief "Hundred-Flowers" period. This was a movement to liberalise "political, artistic and cultural" expression, followed by a "corrective" movement necessitated by excesses that had taken place.

Certain texts, dated 1951, are put forward as criticisms of Mr. Liu Shao-chi even

though his name appears in none of them and though Mr. Liu was to become President of the republic eight years later.

Mr. Liu was finally purged for good during the Cultural Revolution of the 1960s. One of the texts criticising him in Volume Five states: "All Central Committee documents must be read by me (Chairman Mao) or they will be null and void."

The first four volumes of Chairman Mao's Selected Works, the last of which was published in September 1969, covered the period from 1926 to 1949. Today's is thus the first volume to include works following the advent of Communism to China on Oct. 1, 1949.

The New China News Agency had recalled that the compilation and editing work had been carried out by a committee especially set up after Chairman Mao's death and headed by Chairman Hua Guo-feng.

It published a Central Committee decision dated April 15, 1977, in which it announced the publication of the new volume and calling on the 800 million Chinese to study the new texts.

WALL STREET REPORT

Prices managed a small advance Friday on the New York stock exchange, where the industrial average closed less than one point higher.

Trading was moderate, slowing considerably from the heavy pace set on Thursday. There was some profit-taking following the market's recent gains and President Carter's announcement of an anti-inflation programme did not really stir the investment community.

Wall Street, however, was still approving the president's decision on Thursday to drop his proposal for a \$50 per person tax rebate from his economic stimulus package.

Gainers led losers at the bell by a small 750 to 690 margin. Aluminium, aircraft, airline and computer issues were generally strong while gold mine, auto, paper and steel shares closed on a weaker note. General Motors lost 3/4 to 69 1/2 in active trading while Westinghouse gained 1/4 to 20.

At the close, the industrial average shows at 947.76, a gain of 0.76 points; Transp at 234.42, a gain of 0.25; utilities at 108.53, a loss of 0.10. 20,230,000 shares changed hands, of which 3,340,000 during the last hour.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The announcement of a further quarter per cent cut in the minimum lending rate brought little comfort to the stock exchange Friday, as most sectors were depressed by the higher inflation rate and by worries about trade union opposition to a further bout of wage restraint.

Losses in medium and long dated gilts stretched to 3/8 of a point whilst shorts had early gains of 1/4 of a point reduced to 1/8, in contrast, Rhodesian bonds rose on fresh hopes of a settlement.

Industrials fell by several pence in the wake of leaders such as I.C.I., Beecham, Unilever, Guest Keen and Tupperware. By the close the F.T. index was down 4.5 points at 416.5. However, shippings and motors, including British Leyland, continued their recent advance whilst in oils, British Petroleum again drew strength from Wall Street but other leaders such as shell retreated.

Banks eased along with insurances and most properties. Golds encountered further profit-taking but other mining sections once again held steady. A few tea improved and Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank edged higher but other Far Eastern issues showed little change.

Price of gold closed in London Friday at \$180.65/oz.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

* JOHANNESBURG, April 15 (AFP). — South Africa has called on the United States to explain a reported remark by U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Andrew Young that the South African government is illegitimate, Foreign Minister P. W. Botha said here. U.S. Ambassador William Bolger was summoned to the Foreign Ministry and was asked to ascertain whether Mr. Young made the alleged remark, reported today in the evening newspaper Cape Argus, Mr. Botha said.

* UNITED NATIONS, April 15 (R). — The Security Council last night strongly condemned an "act of armed aggression" carried out by a group of mercenaries against the West African country of Benin last January. In a resolution adopted by consensus, without a vote, the 15-nation council did not identify any governments as having been responsible for the three-hour attack against Benin's economic capital, Cotonou. But it appealed to all states to provide assistance to help Benin repair the damage and losses. In a report on the incident, Benin said six of its citizens were killed by the raiders, who arrived and departed aboard an unmarked aircraft, and that damage was estimated at more than \$20 million.

* LOS ANGELES, April 15 (AFP). — An independent arbitrator selected by the International Court of Justice in the Hague has awarded \$80,000,000 in compensation to the U.S. oil company Atlantic Richfield from Libya. It was learned here yesterday. The Libyan government took over the company's assets and concessions in 1972 and 1974. But, as Libya refused to take part in the arbitration procedure, Atlantic Richfield will have difficulty in exacting payment. The company said in a communique that it would begin other legal proceedings.

* PARIS, April 15 (AFP). — Unemployment, in terms of job-seekers, rose to 1,002,500 in March against 972,400 in the previous month, seasonally-adjusted official figures showed today.

Arab aid agencies to tighten boycott of Israel

KUWAIT, April 15 (R). — Heads of eight Arab development aid agencies yesterday discussed ways of strengthening operations to tighten the Arab boycott of Israel, officials said here.

During two sessions of talks, they also discussed the possible establishment of an Arab institute to study projects seeking the aid of the Arab agencies, they added.

No other details were immediately available about the discussions on Arab boycott of Israel. But observers here believe it might mean that projects in Third World countries receiving Arab aid would in future have to abide by rules of the boycott.

The meetings, at the headquarters here of the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD), were attended by the President of the fund, Dr. Saeb Jaroudi, chiefs of development funds in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Abu Dhabi, Libya and Iraq, as well as the Arab Bank for African Econ-

omic Development and the Islamic Development Bank.

The heads of the eight agencies will attend meetings starting on Saturday of the annual conference of the Arab Fund, which are also expected to be attended by finance ministers of their representative offices.

Meanwhile the Arab Fund today announced three new loans to two Arab states totalling 13 million Kuwaiti dinars (\$25 million) and the Kuwait fund announced a 2.1 million dinar (\$4.2 million) loan to the Malagasy Republic.

The new loans are part of a series of financial aid packages announced by the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) in recent weeks.

The AFESD is a multi-national organization established in 1970 to provide financial and technical assistance to Arab states and other developing countries.

The fund's resources are derived from contributions by member states and from the sale of its publications.

The fund's headquarters are in Kuwait City, and it has branches in several other Arab states.

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